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ANCESTRY AND DESCENDANTS

OF

Lieut. John Henderson,

Of Greenbrier County, Virginia.

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1650—1900.

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LIEUT. JOHN HENDERSON.

1739-1787.

# ANCESTRY AND DESCENDANTS

OF

## Lieut. John Henderson,

Of Greenbrier County, Virginia.

1650 — 1900.

FROM DATA COLLECTED AND ARRANGED BY

HIS GREAT-GREAT-GRANDSON,

JOSEPH LYON MILLER, M. D.,

Member of Virginia Society, Sons of the Revolution, the West Virginia  
Historical Society, and Author of *Historic Homes of Old  
Virginia* and other Virginia Sketches.



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## INTRODUCTION.

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It has been well said that "the present is founded upon the past, and the past is our only guide to the future. If we wish to see before us we must turn and look into the mirror behind us."

Until recently the American people, except Virginians, have looked upon genealogy as foolishness, and any one who tried to know something of his great-grandfather as a snob. In later years there has been a decided change, but even yet there is a host of otherwise sensible people, who still hold to this opinion. They will say that it is "sheer nonsense" if you try to interest them in their own ancestry, and then perhaps will talk for hours about the grand ten or twelve generation pedigree of some favorite horse. And why is this pedigree of interest? Because they know that a horse may inherit certain qualities, and they produce his pedigree as a guarantee that he has, or ought to have them. If a horse is the better for having his ancestry known, why not so with a man? A horse does not, because he cannot realize the advantage of his genealogy; a man can, but as a rule does not do so. A nation composed of an aggregation of men is what its people make it, and not to know the composition of the people is an obstacle to the clear and true understanding of national history. So that the genealogies of the different families of a country have a high value to the student of history.

Recognizing the many deficiencies of this little book, I send it forth with many misgivings as to how it may be received. But also knowing that it contains practically all of the facts relative to our family of Hendersons that are obtainable from the records preserved in this country, I think that it has sufficient value to warrant its existence. I feel that I am rendering a service to some future historian of the family by gathering together these records and verified traditions of our forefathers ere they are misplaced and perhaps lost in the passing of the older generations. I have tried to exclude all statements of important facts

that could not be verified; and the data set forth here has been gleaned from family records, letters, papers, etc., the records of the counties of Augusta, Greenbrier, Mason and Monroe, Saffell's *Revolution*, Hardesty's *History of Mason County*, Hening's *Statutes at Large*, Waddell's *Annals of Augusta County*, Peyton's *History of Augusta County*, Burke's *Baronetage* (1834 edition), *Patronymica Britannica*, *Scottish Antiquary*, etc.

Undue prominence has not been given some branches of the family over that of others because of any partiality, but because of the more abundant material. Several members of the family did not even acknowledge my letters of inquiry.

It has been a labor of love to gather here and there the records and floating traditions which illustrate a history rich in the story of brave men and noble women, thus saving from impending oblivion ever so little of their memory. Like "Old Mortality," I have wandered among the graves of the past, and humbly attempted to retouch the fading gravestones of virtue and worth.

# THE HENDERSONS.

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*Patronymica Britannica* says that the name of Henderson is derived from Hendrick's son, or Henry's son. According to the science of Scottish surnames, the Hendersons are of Danish origin, it being claimed that all Scotch people whose names end in "son" are of Danish ancestors; therefore, go back to the days when the eastern shores of Scotland were overrun by the Danes. Burke in 1834 says that the surname of Henderson is one of considerable antiquity in Scotland, the Hendersons having been settled in the western part of County of Fife, near Inverkeithing for over four centuries. The representative families of that name in Scotland to-day are those of St. Laurence, Fordell, Stemster, and Edinburgh. For several hundred years the name has appeared on the college and military rolls of that country.

The family of interest here is supposed to be descended from James Henderson, first Knight of Fordell; the reason for this assumption will appear later.

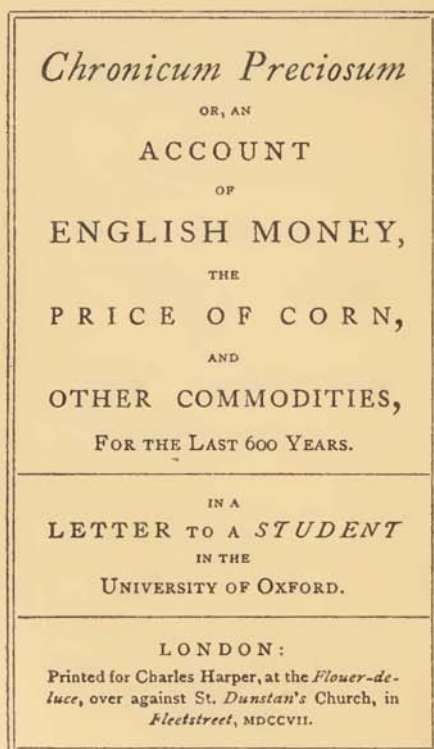
James Henderson was born about 1450, and was killed September 9, 1513. He was appointed King's Advocate in 1494, and a few years later Lord Justice Clerk. He fell with his eldest son, John, as did their royal master, King James IV. of Scotland, at Floddenfield on that fatal 9th of September, 1513.

"To tell red Flodden's dismal tale  
Tradition, legend, tune and song  
Shall many an age that wail prolong;  
Still from sire the son shall hear  
Of that stern strife and carnage drear,  
Of Flodden's fatal field  
Where shivered was fair Scotland's spear,  
And broken was her shield.  
\* \* \* \* \*  
There, Scotland! lay thy bravest pride.  
Chiefs, knights, and nobles many a one!"

About 1680 we are told that William, John and James Henderson crossed to Ireland from near Dalmannie, Scotland; but



whether one of them was the ancestor of the Virginia family, the subject of this sketch, we are unable to tell. The oldest family record accessible to the writer carries the family back to the middle of the seventeenth century, or more than two hundred years. This record is written in an old book, whose title page reads as follows:



In this old book, printed in 1707, and now owned by the writer of this sketch, is written in quaint, faded characters the following family record:

W<sup>m</sup> Henderson Gent & Marg<sup>t</sup> Bruce  
Mar'd Feb<sup>ry</sup> 7 1705

John Son to W<sup>m</sup> born'd Feb<sup>ry</sup> 9 1706

Ja<sup>s</sup> Son to W<sup>m</sup> born'd Jan<sup>ry</sup> 17 1708



Bruce Son to W<sup>m</sup> born'd May 10 1710  
 Dyed Sep<sup>ber</sup> 1719  
 Sam<sup>l</sup> Son to W<sup>m</sup> born'd Novem<sup>ber</sup> 28 1713  
 Grandsons to John Henderson Gent  
 Fifshyre Scotland.

W<sup>m</sup> Henderson Dyed Aug<sup>t</sup> 1 1737 Aet 61  
 Born'd Apr<sup>l</sup> 30 1676  
 Marg<sup>t</sup> Henderson Dyed Decem<sup>ber</sup> 15 1739  
 Born'd March 1 1680/1 Aet 59  
 Jean Henderson Stuart Dyed in Child  
 Bedd March 1730 Aet 19  
 John Henderson Dyed May 1 1766 Aet 60  
 Sam<sup>l</sup> Henderson Dyed Jan<sup>ry</sup> 19 1782

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This Record Set down from the Memory of  
 Jas Henderson now Aet 75.

And on the next page is this record:

Jas Henderson & Martha Hamilton  
 Mar'd June 23. 1738

Martha Henderson Dau. to Audley  
 Harrison Hamilton Gent & Elenor Adams  
 his wife.

Jas Hendersons living Children—  
 David, W<sup>m</sup>, John, Jas. Sarah Jos. & Jean.  
 Sam<sup>l</sup> & Arch<sup>bld</sup> & Marg<sup>t</sup> passed away.

On the fly leaf is written:

Jas Henderson His Booke .  
 Virginia 1740.

And now as to the connection with Fordell. The record mentions "John Henderson, Gent., of Fifeshire, Scotland," and it is known that all the Fifeshire Hendersons are originally those of Fordell Manor. Judging from the birth of William Henderson, Gentleman, in 1676 his father, John Henderson, was probably born about 1650, this would place him about right to be a son of one of the four younger sons of Sir John Henderson, owner of Fordell during the reign of Charles I. According to Burke, Sir John had a distinguished command in the army of King

Charles, and was a lineal descendant of James Henderson, first, of Fordell. There is one other thread of connection that may be given. On the back of a family paper, which is undated, but was probably written before the Revolution, as there is a reference made to £60 and all the "s's" are the old long "s's"; on the back of this letter is a crudely drawn shield bearing devices that have been identified as <sup>the same as</sup> identical with those of the Hendersons of Fordell, as also the motto "Sola Virtus Nobilitat." But from the records obtainable in this country there is no possible way to establish unquestionably the kinship. However, there are many genealogists who do make positive statements concerning the kinship of certain new world families to those of similar name in the old countries, who have no more foundation for their assumption.

#### THE HENDERSON ARMS,

In heraldic language are: "Gu. three piles issuing out of the sinister side arg. On a chief of the last, a crescent az. betwn. two ermine spots. CREST. A hand ppr. holding a star or. surmounted by a crescent arg. MOTTO. Sola Virtus Nobilitat."

#### MAIN LINE OF FORDELL.

As the similarity of given names between the main line of Fordell and the Virginia Hendersons may be of interest, I here give from Burke the generations from 1625 to 1850:

"Sir John Henderson mar. Margaret Monteith, heiress of Randiford; by whom he had five sons and five daughters, and was succeeded by his eldest son John Henderson, Esq., who was created a baronet of Nova Scotia 15 July 1664. Sir John mar. Margaret dau. of Sir John Hamilton of Obieston, Lord Chief Justice clerk; by whom he had two sons and two daughters and dying in 1683 was succeeded by his second and only surviving son Sir William, who mar. Miss Hamilton dau. of Sir John Hamilton of Mountain Hall, by whom he had four sons and a daughter. He died in 1709 and was succeeded by his eldest son Sir John who mar. Christian dau. of Sir Robert Anstruther bart of Bal-kaskie; by whom he had three sons and five daughters, succeeded by second and eldest surviving son Sir Robert d. Oct. 1781. Mar. Oct. 3, 1748, Isabella dau. of George McKenzie, Esq., of Firnie; by whom he had issue John his successor and Sir Bruce present Baronet (1834)." Sir Bruce died childless, and the

estate descended to his first cousin, George Mercer, who assumed the name of Mercer-Henderson.

### THE VIRGINIA HENDERSONS.

James, John and Samuel Henderson mentioned in the record already given, all came to Virginia, but it is with the descendants of a son of James that we shall mostly concern ourselves. The date of their arrival in America is not known unless that of 1740 is the right year. They all settled in Augusta county, where they married and brought up families. We will first notice a few facts concerning John and Samuel Henderson before proceeding with James Henderson and his descendants.

John Henderson, according to Vol. VII. of Hening, was an Ensign in the Augusta Militia in the French and Indian War, and in 1758 received fourteen shillings' pay. His will was recorded in Augusta county August 20, 1766, and mentions a son William, two daughters unnamed in the will, his wife Rose Finley, sister of John Finley, one of the first Justices of the county. His brother James was one of the executors.

Samuel Henderson was also in the Augusta Militia, and in 1758 received fourteen shillings too. His will is recorded in 1782 in Augusta, and mentions his wife, Jane, and the following children: James, \*Andrew, Alexander and Florence. His son James died in 1801, and his will mentions wife Isabella, and children, John, Joseph, Jones, Alexander, Becky, Sarah, Margaret, and Jean. Samuel Henderson had a grant of 160 acres of land "on both sides of Dry River," in Augusta, July 10, 1766.

### JAMES HENDERSON.

James, second son of William and Margaret Bruce Henderson, was born in 1708 in Scotland, and died in 1784 in Virginia. He served in the Augusta Militia in the French and Indian War, first as an Ensign, later as a Lieutenant. By act of the House of Burgesses in 1758 to pay the Militia, he received for services as Ensign £1 18s., and later as Lieutenant £1. The sword which he carried in this war, which is named in the inventory of his son John's estate, was preserved by his descendants till stolen in the Civil War.

June 23, 1738, he was married to Martha, daughter of Audley Harrison Hamilton, Gentleman, and his wife Elenor Adams

771. a M. H. Henderson's Augusta Co



Hamilton. Nothing more is known of Audley Hamilton than that Hening in his list of the Augusta Militia in 1758 mentions an "Audly Hamilton," who may have been a brother or cousin instead of the father of Martha Henderson. They were the parents of the following children: David, John, James, William, Sarah, Joseph, Jean, Samuel Archibald, and Margaret. In his will in 1784 James Henderson does not mention either John or Jean. The reason for this is not known, but in the case of the former is supposed to be because John had married in 1765 and gone "west" and settled on New River, in Greenbrier county, where he prospered till in 1787 his estate consisted of about two thousand acres of land, four negroes and over five hundred pounds of personalty, amounting to more than his father's estate. At least, there was no estrangement with his brothers, for in an old letter written by William Henderson, John is mentioned as having sold five hundred acres of land to David, and in 1784 David collected some money from the State of Virginia for John. In his will John makes his brother "Col. James Henderson" one of his executors. James H. had moved to Greenbrier after his father's death, where he received in 1785-'6-'7 grants for 1,609 acres of land.

#### JOHN HENDERSON.

John, second son of James and Martha Henderson, was born about 1740, and died Sunday, March 24, 1787. In 1765 he married Anne Givens, youngest sister of Elizabeth Givens, wife of Gen. Andrew Lewis. She was born about the same year as her husband, and died May 28, 1819. Soon after their marriage they removed to New River, near Fort Savannah, or Fort Union, later, the present town of Lewisburg, Greenbrier county. Here he purchased a small tract of land, and in 1786 Governor Randolph granted him 350 acres, the original parchment grant is now owned by his great-granddaughter, Mrs. Kate Hannan Long. In this year he was granted two tracts containing 1,400 acres lying at the confluence of the Great Kanawha and Ohio Rivers; beginning about a mile above the mouth of the former at the boundary of the George Washington grant of 10,990 acres, and extending down that river to the mouth, and thence down the Ohio to the grant of Gen. Hugh Mercer. The original 1786 grants for this land have been lost, but on a resurvey in 1800

Governor James Monroe made new grants "to Samuel, John, James, and William Henderson Heirs at law of John Henderson, Dec'd," and these parchments are still preserved by the descendants of John Henderson: one for one thousand acres by his great-granddaughter, Mrs. Ella Henderson Hutchinson, and one for four hundred acres by the writer of this sketch. He also had a grant for forty-five acres in Montgomery county, which was regranted to his heirs Nov. 24, 1788.

In the beginning of Dunmore's War he enlisted as a Lieutenant in the New River Company under Captain Herbert, and took part in the battle of Point Pleasant fought on the 10th of October, 1774. On the breaking out of the Revolution he enlisted in Col. Daniel Morgan's Scotch-Irish Regiment from the Valley of Virginia, in which he served until 1780, with the rank of Corporal, in Capt. John Gregory's Company. His powder horn was preserved by the descendants of his son Samuel, and a sword carried by his father in the French and Indian War by the Monroe county descendants.

John Henderson was one of the Justices of Greenbrier county, and was present at the November court in 1780. His personal estate included four negroes, and amounted to over 536 pounds. He was the father of the following children: Samuel, born September 7, 1766; John, born August 30, 1768; Margaret, born February 12, 1771; James, born —; Jean, born —; William, born —. Of the last three children I have been able to learn but little. Jean married — Kirkpatrick, and died August 22, 1805. James married in 1800 Elizabeth Maddy, of Monroe county, and William tells something of his family in the following letter to his sister, Margaret Vawter:

"CABELL COUNTY, VA., *March 22, 1828.*

"DEAR SISTER: I again sit down to write a line to you which will inform you that myself and family are all in common health except Nancy. She has been very unwell ever since some time last fall, but is able to go about part of every day almost.

"Our old Brother Samuel is now at my house, and is unwell only a Bad Cold, he left his family and Betsey's all well only James who is afflicted with some thing in his throat or neck perhaps what is Called the King's evil— I intended to go to see you last fall (but the bad health of my wife and Other things



prevented me) and take you money I Borrow'd from you But, finding it inconvenient to go Mr. Buhring the man who had the use of it last Summer undertook to Send it for me by Some person from Logan Courthouse and informs me that he sent it by Joseph Gore. I have never heard whether you have got it— I was only able to Send you 120 Dollars When I can I will send or take you the Interest. If I can I want to go next fall Betsey talks of going with me.

“Write me whether you have got your money and everything else that you think I may be Interested in hearing.

“I have in the former part of my letter been talking of things of a Temporal nature. I want now to Say a few words about things which are of more weight my prospects as it respects this world has not been nor is not at present very flatering but I am inclined to think that it will all come out right in the end, having little of the world and being Generally disappointed in my Calculations to wean my affections from things below and teaches me not to seek hapiness in anything Less than God. I think That I can with propriety say I am bound for the good Country— O my Dear friend I greatly desire the pleasure of your Company but this cannot be— Therefore let us make heaven and Glory the Leading motives in all our pursuits and It will not be long Till we Shall all meet in that happy region where we shall forever enjoy the Society of each Other never again to be interrupted by Separation.

“O my sister let us go on and hold fast the beginning of our Confidence Stedfast to the end and in due time we shall reap if we faint not. If you have any accounts from Brother James I want you to write me. Bro. Sam'l Tells me that my Dear Nephew John H. V. is married to a Miss Dunlap— My Son John was married on the 21st of Feb.y to Elvira McComas Daughter to Genl E. McComas. I have nothing more worth Communicating But remain your affectionate Brother and Sincere  
friend  
W<sup>m</sup> Henderson.”

The above letter is written in a beautiful hand, and is directed to Mr. John H. Vawter, Union, Monroe Co., Va. It was mailed at Logan Court-house, Va., April 14, 1828. Nancy was his wife, and the first Betsey the widow of his brother John Henderson. The second Betsey is presumably the writer's daughter. John

H. V. was John Henderson Vawter. Original letter is now owned by John H. V.'s son, Capt. Charles Vawter, of Albemarle Co., Va.,

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SAMUEL HENDERSON,

Oldest son of John and Anne Givens Henderson, was born Sept. 7, 1766, and died December 24; 1836, in Mason county, where he had settled on the Henderson lands in 1795. In 1794 he was married to Sallie Donally, daughter of Col. Andrew Donally, who built "Donnally's Fort," in the Greenbrier country, in 1771. In 1790 Col. Donnally and George Clendenin became the first representatives of Kanawha county in the Virginia Assembly, and later he was re-elected for the year of 1803. Sally Donally Henderson was born January 25, 1775, and died June 3, 1821. Samuel Henderson was the father of three children:

- I. John Givens, born Feb. 5, 1795; died March 23, 1888.
- II. Andrew, born December 25, 1797; died unmarried.
- III. Charles, born January 16, 1803; died unmarried.

Charles was considered one of the brightest lawyers and greatest orators in Mason county in the first half of the last century. Several of his speeches and letters are still preserved, showing him to have been particularly clever and witty.

I. John G. Henderson, the eldest son, inherited the farm where he lived all of his life. He volunteered in the war of 1812, and was Deputy Sheriff of Mason county in 1822-'3; he was also one of her early Justices. February 2, 1826, he was married to Anna E. Stephens, born June 5, 1806, died August 17, 1839. She was the daughter of Capt. John B. and Sallie Ogden Stephens, who came to the county in 1819. He was a grandson of a member of the company organized in 1772 to locate lands in the "west"; the following being some of those who surveyed and got grants of land for themselves in Mason county on the Great Kanawha and Ohio Rivers, in 1774: George Washington, 10,990 acres; Hugh Mercer, 13,532A; Andrew Lewis, 9,876; Peter Hog, 8,000A; and Andrew Stephens, 8,000A. Stephens sold his patent later to Daniel Ruffner.

John Givens Henderson was the father of the following children:

1. Samuel Bruce, born November 15, 1826; died October 21, 1900.

2. Sallie A., born November 7, 1828.

3. Mary Ella, born May 12, 1832.

1. Samuel Bruce Henderson, married January 16, 1853, Lydia S. George, daughter of William and Nancy Eastham George, of Fauquier county. They were the parents of five children: Charles, married Margaret Dameron, of Kentucky; John W.; Ann Eliza, married James Wilson; Nannie Lee; James S., married Hattie Poffenbarger.

2. Sallie A. Henderson, married Joseph George, one of the large Kanawha Valley farmers. No children.

3. Mary Ella Henderson, married May 29, 1855, John L. Hutchinson, son of Isaac and Margaret Hutchinson, of Monroe county. His grandfather was a soldier in the Revolution, and about 1796 a member of the Assembly of Virginia. They were the parents of six children: Charles Andrew, married a Miss Charles; Robert Bruce; Isaac Sterling; Margaret; Mary, and John Henderson. Mrs. Hutchinson lives in the large, old brick house built in 1811 by her grandfather, Samuel Henderson, at the mouth of the Kanawha River, opposite Point Pleasant. She has a good many Henderson relics in the way of antique furniture, oil portrait of Andrew Henderson, old parchment land grant for a thousand acres, etc.

#### COL. JOHN HENDERSON,

Second son of John and Anne Henderson, was born in Greenbrier county, Va., Tuesday, August 30, 1768, and died at Henderson, Mason county, Thursday, August 19, 1824. In 1792 he married Elizabeth Stodghill, daughter of John and Elizabeth Harvey Stodghill, of Greenbrier. She was born August 3, 1776, and died Friday, February 20, 1846. The family was of English descent. Her father owned a considerable quantity of land, four hundred acres of which was granted to him in 1787, a portion of which is still owned by the descendants of his son James. Elizabeth Henderson's grandfather, John Harvey, owned for a long time the now famous Red Sulphur Springs, in Greenbrier county. Her sister Nancy married John Arbuckle, and her sister Rhoda married Hugh Caperton of Monroe county.

According to the following order John Henderson was a Lieutenant in the Seventy-ninth Virginia Regiment, or Greenbrier Militia:



"Lieutenant John Henderson, 5th. May 1795

"Sir, you are to attend at the plantation of John Byrnsid in the Sinkes on friday 22nd. Instent to hold a Court-Marshall on the Busness of the Betalion. also your Ensign and the Commissions of the Company.

"I am Sr. your Humbel Sert.

"JAMES GRAHAM *Majr.*"

In 1796 and 1797 he was Commissioner of Revenues for the county of Greenbrier, as shown by the following original papers:

"AUDITOR'S OFFICE, 23 Nov., 1796.

"Received of John Henderson, Commissioner of Greenbrier —, A List of the Land and Property Tax within his District, for the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-six.

"S. SHEPARD."

"Greenbrier February Court, 1797.

"John Hunderson Gent. is continued in his office of Commissioner of public Tax this present Year.

"Co JOHN STUART C."

In 1797 he removed to the mouth of the Great Kanawha River, to a farm inherited from his father. Here he soon began to take an important part in public affairs. July 3, 1804, he and nine other gentlemen sat as the first court held for Mason county; each of them had been previously commissioned a Justice by Gov. John Page. Five years later he became a member of the Virginia Assembly, which position he held in the years of 1809, 1810, 1813, 1814, 1817, 1818, 1819 and 1820, as shown by the lists of the Assembly in some odd numbers of an old almanac preserved at the Capitol, and by family letters and receipts still preserved; and family tradition says that he was also there in the years 1821, 1822 and 1823. In 1814 he was Commissioner of Revenue for Mason county, as shown by this original certificate in the possession of the writer:

"I, John Henderson Commissioner of the Revenue for Mason county for the year 1814 do hereby certify that Peter Menager produced to me the Rect. of Mann Reynolds Sheriff of said County for the payment of Nineteen Dollars & Eight cents, the

tax due on a Retail Store License from the 12th day of Sept. 1814, to the first day of May 1815.

"Given under My hand and seal this 19th day of September 1814.  
JOHN HENDERSON."

September 30, 1815, he was commissioned High Sheriff of Mason county, as shown by an old bond given for his deputies, Samuel McCulloch and John McCulloch, Jr., by Samuel McCulloch, John McCulloch, Jr., John McCulloch, Sr., and Edward McDonough, for the sum of ten thousand dollars. He continued in this office, as shown by the following paper dated in 1816:

"Be it Known to all to whom these presents shall come that I John Henderson, Sheriff of Mason County in full county (election) held at . . . court-house thereof on the 16 day of April in the Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & sixteen by the el . . . said County Qualified According to Law, Caused to . . . two delegates for my said County namely Enos Thomas and Charles Clendenin to represent the same in the General Assembly. Given under my hand the day & year aforesaid.  
JOHN HENDERSON."

After the organization of Mason county in 1804, John Henderson became one of the officers in the One Hundred and Sixth Virginia Regiment. In an old muster roll, bearing date of 1812, he is named as "1st Major," and all his letters in 1811, 1812 and 1813 are addressed to Major John Henderson. In 1813-'14 he was commissioned Lieut. Colonel, as shown by several of his orders written early in 1814; and soon afterward he received his commission as Colonel, which title is used in the following order early in 1815:

"MASON COUNTY *February the 17th, 1815.*

"Detailed for service from this command Captain Michael Lee, Lieut. Matthew Brown, Lieut. Charles Bryan, Ensign Leander Munsell, Ensign John McCulloch, 4 Sergeants, 3 Corporals, 2 fifiers and 58 Privates—total 72 in persuance to Brigade orders of the 23 Ult.

JOHN HENDERSON,  
"Colo Comdg 106 Regt."

In 1812 and 1813 he received the following appointments:

"DEAR SIR.

"RICHMOND 9th October 1812.

"As chairman of the Committee of the 'Society for promoting the Success of the War against Great Britain' I am directed to request that you will have the Goodness to Act as Our Agent at Point Pleasant in receiving 700 pair of Shoes, 300 Flannel Under-Jackets and 69 pair of Woolen Stockings, intended as a Donation to General Leftwich's Brigade; and that in the Event of the Troops having Marched from Point Pleasant, you will be pleased to make a Contract on the best Terms you can, for their Transportation to the point of the destination of the Brigade: Your Drafts on Me for the Sums Necessary for defraying the expense will be paid on Sight. I have the honor to be

"Very Respectfully

Dr. Sir

"Your Most Ob'd Serv.

"MAJOR JOHN HENDERSON."

"JAMES WOOD."

"It is advised

"IN COUNCIL, MAY 31, 1813.

"That Major John Henderson of Mason County, be requested to take charge of the Arms & other property belonging to the Commonwealth, left at Point Pleasant by the Detachment of Militia under the Command of Brigadier General Joel Leftwiche for the purpose of having them taken proper care of— that he be also requested to have an Inventory taken, and Report the same to the Executive.

"Copy Teste

WM. RICHARDSON C. C.

"SIR.

"Richmond, Council Chamber, May 31, 1813.

"I am instructed by his Excellency the Governor to transmit you the above Copy of an Advice of Council of this date, and to request your particular attention to the object thereof. I am

"Sir

Very Respectfully

"Your H'ble Ser't

"WM. ROBERTSON C. C."

In 1820 he received the following commission:

"To John Cantril, John Henderson & John McCulloch KNOW YE, THAT OUR Lieutenant GOVERNOR, persuant to the act of General Assembly, passed on the 2nd day of March, 1819, entitled, 'An Act to reduce into one act, the acts now in force



providing for the appointment of Electors to chose a President and Vice President of the United States' hath with the advice of the Council of State, constituted and appointed you the said John Cantrell, John Henderson & John McCulloch, COMMISSIONERS for the County of Mason— to superintend the election of Electors for a President and Vice President of the United States to be held in and for the said county according to the Constitution of the United States and the laws of the Commonwealth.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name, as Lieutenant Governor, and caused the SEAL OF Seal of the Commonwealth to be hereunto affixed  
VA. at Richmond, this 2d day of August— in the year  
of our Lord 1820.

“PETER V. DANIEL.”

In those days Col. Henderson frequently made the journey to Richmond on horseback, taking from a week to ten days to make the trip each way. In 1811 he almost lost his life in the famous Richmond Theatre fire, in which Governor Smith and over sixty of the best people of Virginia were burned to death.

Col. Henderson has been described as “a quiet, courteous, old gentleman given to much reading and thinking, and shrinking from publicity,” though he spent most of his life in the public service. He possessed a good library for those days, and for several years, so it has been said he was the only man in the county who took a newspaper; this was the *Richmond Enquirer*, whose subscription price was five dollars a year. It came weekly from Richmond, and then passed from hand to hand over the county till it was literally read to pieces. But one number has been preserved among the Henderson papers, and that contains President Monroe's Inaugural Address in 1816.

Colonel Henderson was not a wealthy man, but was comfortably well off. He owned two plantations as named in his will; the home place of 350 acres and the “Five Mile place” of 225 acres. On these places he kept from twelve to fifteen horses and about twice as many cattle. His slaves consisted of:

One man named London.

One women named Hannah.

One young woman named Phylis, and five children under twelve years old.

In March, 1825, the year after his death, his widow and son purchased a black girl from Mr. William George for two hundred and fifty dollars; her name was Milia; in May of same year a negro man, Barber, from Dr. Shaw for five hundred dollars; and a negro boy from a Mr. Harrison—name and price not known to the writer. The man London is the same fellow that is named in the will of Col. Henderson's grandfather, James Henderson, of Augusta county.

John and Elizabeth Henderson were the parents of the following children:

- I. Margaret, born August 11, 1793; died Nov. 6, 1793.
- II. Jane, born Nov. 12, 1794; died August 13, 1835.
- III. Sarah, born January 6, 1797; died January 26, 1872.
- IV. Rhoda, born March 26, 1800; died April 1, 1879.
- V. Angelina, born Jan. 4, 1802; died Dec. 26, 1843.
- VI. James Madison, born Nov. 22, 1807; died Sept. 14, 1829.
- VII. Elizabeth, born April 8, —.
- VIII. Nancy, born Nov. 21, 1811; died Feb. 1, 1886. ✓
- IX. Emily, born September 10, 1817.

II. Jane Henderson, married, March 29, 1821, Charles Hoy, of Mason county, and died without heirs in 1835.

III. Sarah Henderson was considered one of the prettiest girls in western Virginia in the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Years afterward her daughter, Mrs. Nannie Vaught, met Judge Harrison at Clarksburg, and upon finding out that she was from Mason county he asked if she had ever known Sallie Henderson of that county; that when he was a young man she was considered one of the belles of that section of Virginia, and that he was one of her rejected suitors. He seemed much surprised and pleased when Mrs. Vaught told him that Sallie Henderson was her mother, and still living. In 1819 Sallie's mother writing to Col. Henderson at Richmond, in answer to some inquiry of the anxious father, says: "You ask what prospects for matrimony. Sallie seems to out-pole the rest;" she then names three young men, "Have proposed already, and Mr. ——— is shying around, and I think will propose the next time he comes." This was five years before she became the second wife of John Miller, on the 16th of October, 1823. His first wife was daughter of Major William Clendenin, who was an Indian fighter, Virginia militia-

man, member of the Virginia Assembly, and otherwise prominent in the affairs of his county. John Miller was a son of Christian Miller, a sergeant in Capt. Jacob Rinker's Virginia Company in the Revolution, and grandson of Jacob Miller, a large landowner in the Shenandoah Valley and founder of Woodstock in 1761. John Miller owned about two thousand acres of land, and over twenty negroes.

The order for Sallie Henderson's wedding dresses, carried from Richmond over the mountains on horseback, calls for one white satin dress pattern with white shoes; seven white dresses of India lawn and book muslin; five silk dress patterns, plain and fancy; four crepe dresses, with the various accessories to complete the toilets. The gowns were made in the prevailing empire style of low neck, short sleeves and short waists. One of the crepe dresses was of purple embroidered elaborately down the front and around the bottom of the skirt in white.

John and Sallie Henderson Miller were the parents of the following children:

1. Elizabeth, born August 30, 1824; died 1844.
2. Nancy L., born October 26, 1827.
3. James Henderson, born June 6, 1829; died Feb. 19, 1898.
4. Anne Eliza, born Nov. 8, 1831; died July 16, 1854.
5. Mary Caroline, born Feb. 20, 1834; died Dec. 22, 1899.
6. Rhoda James, born Oct. 13, 1836.
7. Sarah Emily, born Nov. 20, 1839.

1. Elizabeth Miller, married in 1843 Rev. John Van Pelt, and died the following year.

2. Nancy L. Miller, married Sept. 16, 1852, Rev. Stephen Kisling Vaught, of Kentucky. They were the parents of four children; Anne Eliza, Andrew Carr, Robert Lee, M. D. (all dead), and William Henderson, who married Ora Hogg, a great-great-granddaughter of the famous Major Peter Hogg, of Augusta county.

3. James Henderson Miller, married March 27, 1851, Harriet E. Craig, great-granddaughter of Rev. John Craig, the father of Presbyterianism in the Shenandoah Valley; great-granddaughter of John Madison, first clerk of Augusta county; and granddaughter of Capt. William Arbuckle, of Point Pleasant fame. They were the parents of the following children: Willie Anna, married Henry Hannan Eastham, a descendant of the



Fauquier family of that name; Minnie, married Virgil V. Bishop, of Rockingham county; James Henderson, Jr., married Beatrice Brockmeyer; George Kennerly, married Anna Moore; Sarah Vaught, married Samuel Couch, of "Holmewood," Mason county. Mrs. Miller died in 1872, and September 29, 1874, J. H. M., married Finetta Anne Lyon, of Woodford county, Kentucky. She is a lineal descendant of the John Davis who settled in York county, Va., in 1623, from Gloucestershire, England. Her great-great-grandfather, Thomas Davis, married in 1718-'20 Sarah Fielding, daughter of Edward Fielding, a Northumberland county planter, supposed to be the son of Ambrose Fielding, a Bristol, England, merchant. Her Lyon ancestors came to Maryland from Perthshire, Scotland before the French and Indian War. James Henderson Miller and his second wife were the parents of two children: Joseph Lyon, M. D., and Stephen Kisling.

4. Anne Eliza Miller, married November 13, 1850, Capt. James Robert Buffington, of Mobile, Ala., formerly of Cabell county, Va. She died of Cholera in St. Louis in 1854, leaving one son, Llanos, who now lives in California.

5. Mary C. Miller, married May 24, 1859, Absolom P. Chapman, of Cabell county. They were the parents of Sarah F. and Emma Evelyn, who married Charles E. McCulloch, a descendant of the McCullochs of Maryland, and the Clendenins and Bryans of Virginia.

6. Rhoda James Miller, married July 25, 1855, Edmund Pendleton Chancellor, a great-great-grandson of Capt. Richard Chancellor, a soldier of Charles II., who came to Westmoreland county, Va., in 1682. Here he married Catharine Fitzgerald Cooper, a granddaughter of Richard Cooper, one of the Virginia Charter Members, who later came to Virginia in the year 1634. E. P. Chancellor's grandfather, Thomas Chancellor, was a private in the Virginia Line in the Revolution. His wife was Judith Gaines, a niece of Edmund Pendleton. E. P. and R. J. M. Chancellor are the parents of Edmund Pendleton, Jr., married Belle Carnahan; Eugenia, married Castella Rathbone; Rose Carroll, and Nan Preston.

7. Sarah Emily Miller, married September 18, 1870, Hunter Ben Jenkins, of St. Louis. They have two sons, William Henderson, and George.

IV. Rhoda Henderson was considered one of the cleverest members of the family, and all her life was known for her wit and fine intellect. June 7, 1838, she married Henry Hannan, one of the leading farmers of the Ohio Valley, and a descendant of an old Scotch family. They had two children: 1. Franklin; 2. Catharine.

1. Frank Hannan, married Sarah Jane Arbuckle, a member of the famous Arbuckle family of Greenbrier county, and was the father of the following children: Maud, Rose, John, James, and Katharine, who married George C. Pollock, a banker at Boulder, Col.

2. Catharine Hannan, married James W. Long, of "Elm Grove," Mason county, one of the largest farmers of the Kanawha Valley. The Longs are one of the oldest families of Page county, Va., the first of the family having settled there from Germany early in the eighteenth century. Their children are: Rhoda, James Hannan, Mary, Annette, married William Stribling, a member of one of Mason county's oldest families; George, Frances Elizabeth, Sarah, married Gilbert Miller Harnsberger, of Page county, Va., and Evaline, who is considered one of the finest amateur musicians in southern West Virginia. Mrs. Long has many interesting papers and relics of her Henderson ancestors, over a hundred years old, among them is a quaint china teapot that belonged to her great-great-great-grandmother, Margaret Bruce Henderson, over two centuries ago in Scotland.

V. Angelina Henderson, married March 26, 1828, William A. McMullin, of Mason county. She was considered the beauty of the Henderson family, and had a great many admirers. They had six children, who grew to maturity. James, the eldest son, was drowned in the Kanawha River several years ago. The other sons were William and Charles, both dead now, and Major John McMullen, a very genial old gentleman, formerly of Louisville, Ky., but now living in New Albany, Ind. There were two girls, Rhoda and Mary. Rhoda married, first, a Mr. Harshbarger; second, a Mr. Cooke. Mary married, first, a Mr. Judge, and, second, a Mr. Hudson, of St. Albans, W. Va. They had one daughter, Rose, who married in 1895 Henry H. Barnes, of Mt. Sterling, Ky., where Mrs. Hudson now resides.

VI. Elizabeth Henderson, married Rev. David Quinn Guthrie, October 1, 1846, and died without heirs.



VII. Nancy Henderson, married October 18, 1832, Thomas Jefferson Bronaugh, of the fine old family in Fauquier county, Va. Concerning them and their descendants I take the following extract from a number of the Henry county, Mo., *Democrat*:

"Died at her residence, near Calhoun, Henry county, Mo., February 1, 1886, Mrs. Nancy Bronaugh, wife of Thomas J. Bronaugh, in her seventy-sixth year. Mrs. Bronaugh, who was the daughter of Col. John Henderson, was born in Mason county, Va., November 21, 1811, and was married to Thomas J. Bronaugh on the 18th of October, 1832. She removed from Virginia more than thirty-five years since to a farm two miles north of Calhoun, where she continued to reside until her death. Mrs. Bronaugh was the mother of seven children, who survived to man and womanhood, but two of them, Emma and Thomas, preceded her to the grave. Her surviving children are Dr. John W., James H., Mrs. Mary Redford, Christopher C., and David H., all of whom reside in Henry county. . . . With unremitting perseverance she exerted her energy for the well-being of her family and friends. As a devoted mother, loving wife and kind and affable friend and neighbor, she had few equals. None knew her but to esteem her."

VIII. Emily Harvey Henderson, married April 13, 1843, Dr. Joseph Shallcross, son of Dr. Joseph Shallcross, of Philadelphia. Dr. Shallcross was connected with the Cadwallader family and other prominent families of Philadelphia. Dr. Shallcross was born in 1797, served in the war of 1812, and later graduated from the Philadelphia Medical College. He came of a family of physicians, his brother, father and both grandfathers being members of that profession. Joseph and Emily Shallcross were the parents of seven children: 1. Harriette, d. s.; 2. Joseph, d. s.; 3. Catharine, married Miron Hard, superintendent public schools at Sidney, Ohio. They have three children, Ansel S., Nora E., Minnie A.. 4. Annie C., married Capt. John L. Newsome. They have two children, Bizette and Joseph. 5. Morris Cadwallader, married Mary Fowler, and has one child, Celestine. 6. Maria H., married Dr. Charles Davenport Kerr, wholesale and retail druggist at Gallipolis, Ohio. No children. 7. John Henderson, still single.

## MARGARET HENDERSON VAWTER.

Margaret, daughter of John and Anne Givens Henderson, was born February 12, 1771, in Greenbrier county, Va., and died September 8, 1853, in Madison county, Ind. February 12, 1795, she married William Vawter, Jr., born May 26, 1765, died November 15, 1822. He was the son of William Vawter (born May 6, 1735; died March 6, 1815) and Anne Ballard Vawter (born October 23, 1733; died May 24, 1814). His father was one of the large land-owners in the Greenbrier country, and came from one of the oldest families in Essex county. Bishop Meade mentions "Vawter Church" in that county, a venerable old brick church built in 1731, and still in use in 1857. Concerning the position of the family of William and "Peggy" Henderson Vawter in the first half of last century, I take this extract from a letter written by a lady living in Monroe county before the war: "The Vawters are not the wealthiest, but in point of *honor* the *first* in the county."

William and Margaret Vawter were the parents of the following children:

- I. Elizabeth, born January 28, 1798.
- II. John Henderson, born Jan. 23, 1800; died June 8, 1877.
- III. Anne, born March 18, 1802.
- IV. Jean, or Jennie, born June 14, 1805.
- V. Mary, or Polly, born Sept. 8, 1808; died Nov. 23, 1887.
- VI. Elliot, born March 9, 1812.
- VII. James, born August 11, 1814.

1. Elizabeth Vawter, married February 22, 1821, Robert Young, a Monroe county farmer. I have not been able to get any information about this family, but understand that there are two sons living, William and George Young.

II. John Henderson Vawter was a civil engineer of considerable ability, and located nearly all of the Middle Tennessee Railroad. For a long time he was County Surveyor of Monroe county, and before the war he represented that county in the Virginia Assembly for nearly twenty years. From the summer of 1862 till the close of the war he was a Captain on the staff of Gen. John Echols, C. S. A. He had four sons in the Confederate army. They were Dr. Lewis A., Captain of Company C, Sharpshooters, Thirtieth Virginia. William, entered Company D,

Twenty-seventh Regiment, Stonewall Brigade, in August, 1862; wounded at battle of the Wilderness, and promoted to the Commissary Department, with rank of Captain. James E., entered Twelfth Mississippi Regiment in 1861, elected Captain of Company I in May, 1862; shot five times at Frazier's Farm, and died July 2, 1862. Charles E., entered Monroe Guards in May 1861, then into the Twenty-seventh Regiment, Stonewall Brigade; appointed Captain of a company of sharpshooters in 1862; captured and imprisoned in Fort Delaware in March, 1865; released in June, 1865.

John Henderson Vawter married, first, Adaline Dunlap, January 22, 1828; she died November 8, 1828, at the birth of her first child, who also died a year later. June 17, 1833, he married, second, Clara S. Peck, of Giles county, and to them were born the following children:

1. John William, born September 30, 1834.
2. Elizabeth Mary, born January 2, 1836.
3. Margaret Anne, born July 1, 1836; d. s. 1885.
4. Lewis Addison, M. D., born Oct. 22, 1838; died Jan. 4, 1900.
5. James Elliot, born March 1, 1840; d. s. 1862.
6. Charles E., born June 9, 1841.
7. Allen Henderson, born January 8, 1843; d. s.
8. Matilda Ellen, born March 16, 1844.
9. Sarah Josephine, born July 10, 1847.
10. Joseph Snyder, born July 17, 1849; d. s. 1863.
11. Clara Virginia, born August 23, 1853.
12. Henry Alexander, born April 23, 1853.
13. George W., born April 5, 1855.

1. John William Vawter, married September 25, 1866, Elizabeth Dew Kean, of Virginia, and to them were born: John Alexander, d. s.; Nelson Carlyle, Civil Engineer, married Sarah Elizabeth Paxton; Clara McDonald, d. s.; William Alfred, Conductor on Norfolk & Western Railroad, married Mabel Clare Shorter; Charles Kean, Conductor on Mississippi Central Railroad; Andrew Eliot, d. s.; James Samuel, Telegrapher, married Mary S. Pyle; Henry Alexander, Telegrapher.

4. Dr. Lewis A. Vawter, married April 24, 1862, Mary Adair, of Red Sulphur Springs. She died, and January 16, 1867, he married Emily M. Dameron, who bore him four children: Mary



Allen, d. s.; John William, Illustrator for James Whitcomb Riley and others; Clara Peck, author of *Of Such is the Kingdom of Heaven*, a child's book beautifully illustrated by her brother; d. s. Charles Elliot.

6. Charles Erastus Vawter, at the close of the war, returned to Emory and Henry, from which he was graduated in 1866. He then taught in Chattanooga till 1868, when he entered the University of Virginia for a special course in mathematics. In the same year he was elected professor of Mathematics at his alma mater, where he taught till he was made President of the famous Miller Training School in Albemarle county, in 1878. He married July 24, 1866, Virginia Longley, of Tennessee, and to them were born: Mary Longley, married Harrison Robertson, of Danville; Josephine, married Stonewall Tompkins, a member of the Miller School faculty; Charles E., Jr., a graduate of the University of Virginia, and Professor of Mathematics and Physics at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Leonora Leigh, James Elliot, Virginia Longley, and Edmund Longley.

8. Matilda Ellen Vawter, married May 29, 1873, William Farnier, a Craig county planter. They have two daughters: Mamie and Clara, who married Rev. O. W. Lusky.

9. Sarah Josephine Vawter, married, — 1867, Frank Peck Sweeny. They are both dead, leaving two daughters and three sons.

11. Clara Virginia Vawter, married, — 1870, Lewis Peck. Both dead, leaving seven boys and two girls.

12. Henry Alexander Vawter, married February 4, 1885, Nettie Baber, of Alderson, W. Va. They have three children: James Henry, George Elliot, Clara Elizabeth.

13. George W. Vawter, lives at the old Vawter home in Monroe county that has been in the Vawter Family for four generations. October 29, 1879, he married Eliza L. Gwinn, who bore him two children, Joseph and Robert.

III. Anne Vawter, married July 19, 1831, Lorenza Dow Cook, and moved to Indiana, where they have one son, William Vawter Cook, a farmer living near Anderson, Madison county.

IV. Jane Vawter, married August 31, 1826, Andrew Shanklin, and moved to Madison county, Ind., several years before the war. They left one son, William Vawter Shanklin and other children.



V. Polly Vawter, married August 4, 1840, Moses D. Kerr, and moved to Madison county, Ind., where they owned a large farm, and where their descendants still live. They were the parents of:

1. Margaret Anne, born August 23, 1841; died Oct. 9, 1865.
2. James Vawter, born June 19, 1843.
3. Elizabeth Jane, born March 22, 1845; died August 16, 1877.
4. William Elliot, born May 3, 1848; d. s. February 12, 1868.
5. Clara Isabell, born Oct. 30, 1850; died August 16, 1887.

1. Margaret A. Kerr, married March 16, 1865, Ira D. Coty.  
No heirs.

2. James Vawter Kerr, married, first, November 26, 1874, Sarah A. Baker. She died, and December 31, 1876, he married Rosa B. Powell, who bore him four children: Vida Anne, Clara Margaret, Merritt Vawter and Ramond Powell.

3. Elizabeth J. Kerr, married August 30, 1876, John G. Haas. Left one son, Herbert Haas, who married Leah Guilkey.

5. Clara D. Kerr, married August 30, 1876, Milton Harsberger. Left one son, Ramond Harsberger.

VI. Elliot Vawter was educated at Athens, Ohio, and was a pioneer merchant having stores in several of the back counties. He was also a surveyor, and did a great deal of that work in Mercer, Raleigh, Wyoming and McDowell counties. In 1872 he was elected to the West Virginia Senate. Before the war he was a Colonel of Militia, and in the war was in the Confederate Quartermaster Service. November 20, 1839, he married Julia Pack, and to them were born:

1. Mary Jane.
2. Rebecca Anne.
3. Margaret Elizabeth.
4. Julia Ellen.
5. Cynthia Pack.
6. John Elliot.
7. William Robert.
8. Martha Jenny McLean.

2. Rebecca A. Vawter, married March, 1867, Rev. J. R. Van Horne. Five children: Maud, married a lawyer at Woodstock; Rhesel, Guy, Taylor and Sadie.

4. Julia Ellen Vawter, married October 31, 1867, J. M. Johnson, a large farmer of Monroe county and breeder of thorough-

bred Galloway cattle. For four years he was Sheriff of his county. They have six children: Ashby W., Cashier of the Greenbrier Valley Bank, married Miss Pence; Elliot B., married Miss Morton; Eugenia R., married James E. Morton, Cashier of the Graham Bank, and a descendant of the fine old families of Morton, Micheau, and Rochette, of Tazewell county; Julia S., Stella and Emily.

6. John Elliot Vawter, married October, 1881, Miss Rudisil, of Virginia. They have six children: Elliot, John, Eugene, Charles, Emily and Julia.

7. William R. Vawter, married March, 1894, Miss Miller, of Richmond. No children.

VII. James Vawter, merchant, married February 6, 1845, Jane Peck, who died at birth of first child, a daughter who died in 1864. In 1848 he married Eliza Lybreck, of Giles county, by whom he had two daughters. After the war they moved to Illinois, where one girl died and the other one married.

## WILLS AND INVENTORIES.

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WILL OF JAMES HENDERSON (*born 1708; died 1784*).

In the Name of God Amen,

I, James Henderson of the Parish of County of Augusta, Being but in a low State of health at present but of perfect mind and memory thanks to Almighty God who gave it and calling to mind the uncertainty of life and the certainty of death it being apointed for all men once to die and after death the judgment, I do hereby make this to be my last Will and Testament in manner and form as follows and first I recommend my soul to God who gave it and my body to the Earth from whence it was taken to be buried in a christian and decent manner at the direction of my Executor hereafter named not doubting but I shall receive the same again at the Resurrection and as for what worldly goods it hath pleased God to bless me with it is my will and desier that they be disposed of as follows and first it is my will & desier that all my just debts and funeral charges be duly paid within convenient time after my decease by my Executors and the remainder of my Estate to be disposed of as follows, And First. I bequeath to my beloved wife Martha the one third of my whole estate and for her to dispose of as she may think proper after my lawful (debts) is duly paid and it is my desire that the negro wench Elsey shall be my wife's during her life likewise it is my desire son William and David Henderson receive each of them to the value of fifteen pounds of my Estate each one fifteen pounds apiece and my negro boy named London to be divided between as they can agree between themselves and likewise it is my desier that my daughter Sarah Stuart have a horse worth ten pounds and two cows or the value of them and likewise I bequeath unto my other two sons James and Joseph Henderson the remainder of my Estate to be equally divided between them provided that James divide his interests of land rites Caintucky with his brother Joseph and if not then my son James is to receive but the fourth part and if my wife Martha should be incapable



of her part at her descease then I allow her share to be equally divided among the whole of my children and I desire that James and Joseph pay out of their part the sum of Twenty Shillings to James Dickey and Twenty Shillings unto John Dickey and my leave to young James Dickey further it is my desier that the tract of land Containing One hundred Acres of land surveyed to my son Archibald Henderson now deceased be sold as soon as possable and the money to be put to interest untill such time as My son Archibald daughter named Elener Henderson comes to age only this I allow Elizabeth Henderson her mother my sons widow to receive twenty pounds of the price of said lands when received and I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint William Dunlap and my wife Martha to be joynt Executors of this my last Will and Testament and I do hereby revoke and make void all other and former Wills by me any time heretofore made and do ratifi and confirm this only to bee my last Will and Testament in Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Seventh day of February 1784 signed sealed published and declared by the Testator in the presence of

James Young.

James Henderson. (Seal).

William Alexander.

Michael Dickey.

At a Court Continued and held for Augusta County, May 19th. 1784.

This Last Will and Testament of James Henderson deceased was proved by the oaths of James Young William Alexander and Michael Dickey the witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded. And on the motion of Martha Henderson one of the Executors therein named, Certificate is hereby granted her for obtaining a probate in due form she having complied with the Law.

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NOTES ON THE ABOVE WILL.—There is no Inventory of the personal estate of James Henderson on record in Augusta county, but from the property disposed of by the will he must have been possessed of considerable property. He owned at least two negroes; the boy London was later sold by David Henderson to his nephew, Col. John Henderson, of Greenbrier county. Michael Dickey was probably a son-in-law of James Henderson, husband of either his daughter Margaret or Jean; and the James and



John Dickey, therefore, grandsons of his, and "young James Dickey" a great-grandson and namesake.

WILL OF JOHN HENDERSON (*born 1739; died 1787*).

(SON OF JAMES.)

In the name of God, Amen, the eighth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty one, I John Henderson of the County of Greenbrier & STATE of Virginia, Being in perfect health, mind and memory Thanks be given unto God therefore: and Calling to mind the mortality of my Body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to Die, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament: That is to say principally and first of all, I give and recommend my Soul unto the hands of God that gave it as for my body I recommend it to the earth to be buried in a Christian like and decent manner at the Direction of my executors. Nothing doubting that at the general resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God: and as touching my worldly Estate, as it hath pleased God to bless me with in this world, I give and Bequeath in the following manner and form. ——— I Bequeath unto Ann my Dearly beloved Wife, one Negro Woman named Hannah during the state of her widowhood, and afterwards to Descend to my children and one large Grey mare I had Late of Capt. Wright (exclusive of her offspring) together with her bed and furniture I give to her without exception to be hers forever and the plantation I now live upon with all the working tools and two horses to work the same, to be for her support during her widowhood to enable her to raise & *school* my children, and all my Stock and personal Estate I now possess, I allow to be continued (as above during her Widowhood for the purposes above mentioned, and that if by increase they should become more than necessary, I allow them to be disposed of at the discretion of my Executors for the purposes afforesaid— and my covering Horse for that purpose untill this Ensuing Season Expires and after that to be sold at the discretion of my Executors, as above mentioned and all my Estate in Land I bequeathe to my Four sons, Viz: Samuel, John, James, and William, to be equally divided to each, his proportion: to them and their Heirs forever and when any of my children comes to maturity, I allow their part to be given them by my Executors. And I do hereby revoke and

disannul all former Wills and Testaments by me in any wise before this named. Ratifying and confirming this, and no other, to be my Last Will and Testament, In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

JOHN HENDERSON. (SEAL.)

Sign.d seal.d and deliver.d

by the said John Henderson to be his last will and Testament in the presence of us

Thos. Wright,

John Hutcheson,

Wm. Hutcheson.

N. B. I continue and appoint Wm. Hutchison and Colo. James Henderson to be my Executors of this my Last Will and Testament.

Witness my hand.

JOHN HENDERSON.

At a Court holden for Greenbrier County the 26th. June 1787. This Instrument of Writing was presented in Court as & for the Last Will & Testament of Jno Henderson Dec'd & proved by the oath of Jno Hutchison one of the Witnesses thereto & the Executors therein named refusing to take upon them the Execution thereof on the motion of John Hutchison & Samuel Henderson, Administration of said Estate is granted them with the Will annexed.

Teste

JOHN STUART.

Greenbrier June Court 1787.

This Will was proved by the oath of John Hutchison & ordered to rec'd.

JOHN STUART *Clk.*

John Henderson died March 24, 1787, and his estate consisted of near two thousand acres of land in the New River and Kanawha Valleys, with the following personal property, which includes four negro servants:

A list of the Appraisement of Slaves and personal Estate of John Henderson Dec'd.

	£	s	d
One Negro woman @ .....	70	0	0
One Negro boy six years old @ .....	45	0	0
One do. three years old @ .....	38	0	0
One do. girl child @ .....	12	10	0

	£	s	d
One Stone Horse three years old @ .....	40	0	0
One Bay Mare three years old @ .....	25	0	0
One Dappled Gray Mare four years old @ .....	22	0	0
One light gray Mare five years old @ .....	20	0	0
One blue gray Mare five years old @ .....	18	0	0
One Gray Mare ten years old @ .....	15	0	0
One bay Horse six years old @ .....	15	0	0
One do. five years old @ .....	12	0	0
One black Mare ten years old @ .....	11	0	0
One sorrel Mare three years old @ .....	12	0	0
One Black mare four years old @ .....	3	0	0
One bald faced mare brown eight years old @ ....	6	0	0
One chestnut Sorrel horse three years old @ ....	10	0	0
One old Brown Mare @ .....	5	0	0
One year old Horse Colt dark gray @ .....	15	0	0
One year old dark gray mare Colt @ .....	10	0	0
One year old Strawberry gray horse colt @ ....	6	0	0
One year old mare colt black @ .....	5	10	0
One Red brindled Cow @ .....	3	10	0
One red Cow and Calf @ .....	3	0	0
One red Cow @ .....	2	15	0
One py Cow @ .....	2	10	0
One white do. @ .....	2	15	0
One brown do. and a calf @ .....	3	0	0
One py do. @ .....	2	15	0
One brindled pyd heifer @ .....	2	5	0
Three heifers @ 1.10 each .....	4	10	0
One year old Bull @ .....	1	5	0
Two yeares old 1 heifer 1 Steer at 20/ each .....	2	0	0
Ten sheep @ 3/ each .....	4	0	0
Five breeding sows @ 20/ each .....	5	0	0
Fifteen Small Hogs @ 6/ each .....	3	0	0
Three hogs 3 years old @ 20/ each .....	3	0	0
One Sow and five shoats @ .....	1	10	0
One bar share plow and tacklen @ .....	1	5	0
One Shovell plow and Clivishs @ .....	0	10	0
One Do. and clivish @ .....	0	8	0
One Trone 4/6; 1 drawing knife 2/; 1 iron wedge 1/6 .....	0	8	0



	£	s	d
3 Augers 2/6 each; 1 Chisel and gough 1/3 each ..	0	10	0
2 Do. @ 1/ each; 1 pitching ax @ 10/ .....	0	12	0
1 flat Iron 2/; 1 Mattock 7/6 .....	0	9	6
1 hand saw 6/; 1 pitching ax 5/ .....	0	11	0
2 pitching axes @ 7/6 each .....	0	15	0
1 Set of Maul rings 5/; 1 spring lock 8/ .....	0	13	0
1 lamp & snuffers 2/; 1 coze nogen & flems (?) ..	0	3	0
1 Set tug traces 6/ .....	0	6	0
1 Iron kettle 48/; 1 pot 30/; 1 do. 7/6 .....	4	5	6
1 Iron kettle lid and hooks 4/2; pair pot hooks and rack 12/ .....	0	16	0
1 frying pan 7/6; 1 Curry Comb 2/6 .....	0	10	0
3 sickles 6d each; 1 pair nippers 1/6 .....	0	3	0
1 Sword and belt @ .....	3	0	0
7 pewter plate 1/3 each; 3 do. 1/6 each .....	0	13	0
1 pewter dish 7/6; 3 do. @ 3/ each .....	0	16	6
1 pewter basson 10/; 1 small do. 5/ .....	0	15	0
4 small do. 2/6 each; 1 soup spoon 2/6 .....	0	12	0
19 pewter Spoons 3/; 6 tea do. 2/6 .....	0	5	6
7 tins 2/; 4 knives & forks 3/; 1 tin tumbler 2/ ...	0	7	0
1 Do. Coffee Pot 2/6 .....	0	2	6
1 funnel and pepper box .....	0	1	6
6 stone plates 7/6; 4 delph do. 4/; 2 do. bowls 1/6	0	14	6
1 Delph pitcher 2/; 1 do. teapot 1/3; 1 do. bowl 1/	0	4	3
6 tea cups and saucers 5/; 3 do. and Cream jugg 2/6	0	7	6
1 Glas tumbler 2/6; 1 gilted tumbler 6/ .....	0	8	6
1 Rifle gun @ .....	1	16	0
1 Case bottle, 1 wine do. 1/6 each .....	0	3	0
A Number of old Books, .....	0	18	0
1 Rule 2/6 Compases 1/6 .....	0	4	0
1 powder horn and shot bagg .....	0	6	0
Wooden Vessels, .....	0	16	0
6 Chairs 1/ each .....	0	6	0
3 Spinning wheels .....	0	15	0
1 Chacle Reel .....	0	5	0
1 Loom and Quil wheel .....	1	13	0
2 Bedstead and cords 7/6 each .....			
1 do. & cord 4/; 1 cord 2/ .....	1	1	0
1 Womans Saddle .....	1	10	0
4 baggs 5/ each; 1 grind stone 3/ .....	1	3	0



	£	s	d
20 lb wool 2/ per lb; 15 lb of hackled flax 1/ pr lb.	2	15	0
1 Feather bed and furniture .....	9	17	0
1 Do. and do. ....	11	8	0
1 Do. and do. ....	7	0	0
1 Do. and do. ....	7	10	0
1 Do. and do. ....	7	10	0
45 bushels of corn @ 2/ pr bushel .....	4	10	0
	<hr/>		
	£536 19 03		

Appraised by us this 9th. July 1787 being first duly Qualified.

Hugh Caperton

Henry McDaniel

Nichles Henry

John Thompson.

Presented at a Court held 31st. July 1787.

#### HENDERSON RELICS.

Mrs. Kate Hamman Long owns a little old chest that came from Scotland, a quaint old teapot that belonged to Margaret Bruce Henderson more than two centuries ago, as also a piece of a brocade dress that she wore, an old snuff box, an invitation to the governor's ball at Richmond a century ago, an old parchment land grant from Governor Randolph, and several hundred letters and papers of her grandfather, Col. John Henderson, written between 1790 and 1830.

Mrs. Ella Henderson has a portrait of Andrew Henderson a dropleaf table, some chairs, a parchment land grant, and several other family papers.

Mrs. Nannie Miller Vaught owns a massive black walnut side-board, a very fine library table, a great roomy sofa, an old settee, and a gold broach that belonged to Sallie Henderson Miller.

Mrs. Hunter Ben Jenkins has Sallie Henderson's silver and some pieces of jewelry. There are twelve teaspoons, twelve table-spoons, and a massive silver ladle.

The writer of these sketches has the following relics of his Henderson ancestors: An original silhouette miniature of Lieut. John Henderson, made in 1784; original miniatures of Col. John Henderson and Elizabeth Stodghill Henderson, made in 1799; the old book mentioned before, printed in 1707; Vol. I. of

*and an old English gold-faced watch having a beautiful case.*

Proud's *History of Pennsylvania*, 1797; British Album of Verse, 1793; Map of Virginia printed in 1787; The American Primer, first edition, printed at Norfolk, in 1803, and used by Sallie Henderson when six years old; parchment land grant in 1800, being a regrant of 400 acres granted in 1786; several old letters, papers, etc.

A partial list of colleges attended by the descendants of—

SAMUEL HENDERSON.

Greenville Boys' School, Virginia; Point Pleasant High School, Private Schools, etc.

COL. JOHN HENDERSON.

*Virginia Schools:* Washington and Lee University, Washington Female Seminary, Hollins Institute, Greenville Boys' School, Mrs. Stuart's School, University College of Medicine.

*West Virginia Schools:* University of West Virginia, Marshall College, Maurice Harvey College, Lewisburg Female Institute, Parkersburg and Point Pleasant High Schools, etc.

*Kentucky:* Millersburg Female Institute.

*Tennessee:* Vanderbilt University, and the University of Nashville.

*Ohio:* Conservatory of Music, Gallipolis High School, etc.

MARGARET HENDERSON VAWTER.

*Virginia:* University of Virginia, Emory and Henry, Miller Training School, Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Wesleyan Female Institute, Valley Female Seminary, etc., and various Western High Schools and Colleges.

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#### ADDENDUM.

Since the MS. of this sketch was sent to the printer, it has been learned that Audley Harrison Hamilton, Gent., father-in-law of James Henderson, never came to America. He is supposed to have been a brother of Archibald Hamilton, who settled in Augusta county, and whose son, Audly, is mentioned by Hening in 1758. And it was for him that James Henderson named his son Archibald—an unusual name among the Hen-

dersons. Concerning the Augusta Hamiltons, Waddell's *Annals* says: "Major Andrew Hamilton was born in Augusta county in 1741. His parents were Archibald and Frances Calhoun Hamilton, who came to this country from Ireland. Archibald is said to have been a descendant of James Hamilton, Earl of Arran, who was regent of Scotland during the infancy of Mary Stuart. The date of Archibald Hamilton's settlement in Augusta is not known. He was probably one of the first to come, and, like other early settlers, located on the public domain, without legal title to his homestead. In 1747, however, he received from William Beverly, the patentee, a deed for three hundred and two acres of land on Christian's creek, in Beverley Manor, for the nominal sum of five shillings. He also acquired lands by patent from the government. He survived until about the year 1794. His children were five sons—Audly, John, Andrew (born in Augusta in 1741), William and Archibald—and a daughter named Lettice." This sketch says that one of these sons "went to Kentucky, and was the founder of a wealthy and distinguished family"; and that Andrew removed to South Carolina in 1765, where he was a neighbor and friend of General Pickens; that he served in the Revolution as a major under General Pickens; and after the war was a long time member of the South Carolina Legislature; that among his descendants are the well-known families of "Simonds and Ravenels of Charleston, Parkers and Waites of Columbia, Calhouns of South Carolina and Georgia, and Alstons and Cabells of Virginia." According to an old work on British crests, there are over forty different crests borne by more than that many families of Hamiltons in Scotland; that there are eighteen by Bruce, and four by Audley, in Scotland. As will be seen by the record given in the beginning, Margaret Bruce and Audley Hamilton were of *gentle blood*, so must have belonged to some one of these families of Bruce and Hamilton; but it is impossible to say which ones without further records. There are no Harrisons in Scotland, but a family of English descent in Ireland by that name, so that the name Harrison probably came into the family through an intermarriage with it. The given name Audley will likely be the surest means of identification should the family research ever be carried back to Ireland and Scotland.













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